



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Kathleen Clarke
Executive Director

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

February 11, 2002

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Doug Jensen, Senior Reclamation Specialist *D. Jensen*

RE: Site Inspection, Western States Minerals, Drum Mine, M/027/007, Millard County, Utah

Date of Inspection: February 6, 2002

Time of Inspection: 9:30 a.m.

Conditions: Cool & Clear

Participants: Jim Ashton, Western States Minerals, Larry Garahana, BLM & Doug Jensen, UDOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

To observe the work completed to date on the closure of open adits in the SWEX pit.

Observations:

On site I found that a road had been opened across the reclaimed areas to the bottom of the SWEX pit. The road was necessary to get men and equipment to the open adits in the pit.

The trackhoe was in the process of closing the last open adit when I arrived. Because this adit was located on a steep slope, the closure required some finesse to place large rocks in this opening. The closure of the other two openings was very well done. The adit in the area where a slope failure had somewhat obscured the opening; Rancho had drilled and blasted a large rock in front to allow them access to the adit. Due to the deteriorating condition of the pit walls above these adits, closure of these features was hazardous. All the openings have been closed with rocks, which should provide long-term stability of these backfills.

The pit road was re-ripped and the large berm across the road at the top of the pit was replaced. The trackhoe was then used to smooth out the remainder of the access road and the cat ripped the smoothed areas. All the areas that were disturbed by this recent activity has been ripped and seeded.

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The work was well done and care was taken to assure that the closures would be satisfactory. The work, which was originally scheduled to be completed in ten days to two weeks, was completed in three days. Rancho Equipment should be commended for their expertise and enthusiasm in completing this project in a safe and expeditious manner.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The adit closures completed by Rancho Equipment will complete Western States Minerals reclamation commitments at the Drum Mine site. I recommend that the \$20,000 presently being held for this activity be released to Western States.

jb
cc: Buzz Gerick, Western States
Larry Garahana, BLM, Fillmore FO
Mary Ann Wright, OGM
Wayne Hedberg, OGM
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